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25. (New) A process according to claim 13, wherein the acidic solution used in the leach is at least in part comprised of return or spent sulphuric acid solution from the electrowinning stage.

26. (New) A process according to claim 13, wherein additional acid is added to the leach to ensure the pH remains less than about 1.5.

REMARKS

Consideration of the subject application as amended herein is respectfully requested.

Dated: July 09, 2004

New York, New York

Respectfully submitted,

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